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Editor and Publisher

THE LITTLE PAPER WITH THE BIG IDEAS

"Easy to Digest"

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ROYAL MOVIE FANS



NINETEEN pictures were selected recently by the Federation of British Industries' Film department for Royal patronage; among which were: M - G - M's "Broadway Melody

of 1936"; "Anna Karenina", Greta Garbo's latest, which has been heralded as one of her very best; "Escapade", with Luise Rainer, the little Viennese star, who walked into the part, at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios, when Myrna Loy walked out.

"Escapade" is the American adaptation of the Austrian film called "Masquerade". In the cast, William Powell, Frank Morgan, Virginia Bruce and Mady Williams. In London, some of the critics have endeavored to compare her work, with that of Paula Wessley, who has been appearing at the Academy, Oxford St.; in "Episode". Luise Rainer is quite a different type, a radiant personality with a face which is shaped like a heart, in fact, she is exceedingly good-looking, in a piquant, pretty way. Paula Wessley is like her name, strong, vibrant, wholesome and what an actress; so magnificent, and compelling that you forget what she looks like.

But to return to Luise Rainer, in whom Leo, the Lion, has found star-dust, she gives a brilliant and fascinating performance in "Escapade". Another M-G-M selection was "Mutiny on the Bounty".

RKO's "Top Hat", selected, ran close to fifteen weeks, at the Carleton, London, and the last week was as big as ever. The picture was taken off, because of its close bookings to the run at the Carleton, for RKO felt that the exhibitors should get the benefit of "Top Hat's" continued box-office appeal.

"Escape Me Never", the Elizabeth Bergner-Korda-United Artist release, and "Sanders of the River", United Artists-Korda; Gaumont-British "39 Steps", and "The Tunnel"; Fox's "Monte Cristo"; "Heart's Desire", B.I.P.'s Richard Tauber feature; Wardour's "Invitation to the Waltz", with Lillian Harvey; Julius

Hagen's Twickenham feature, "Scrooge", from Charles Dicken's "Christmas Carol"; "Midshipman Easy", with Hughie Green, the Associated British Film Distributors' picture, all among the chosen number for Royal entertainment. Among the short subjects were, of course, "Mickey Mouse" and Silly Symphony Cartoons, John Grierson's "Song of Ceylon", and London Films' "Life of the Gannets".

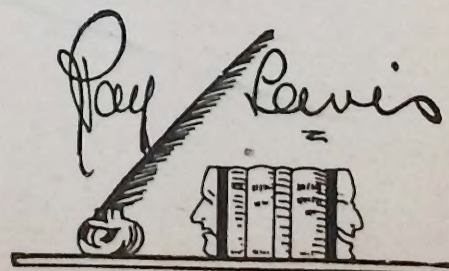
SIR OSWALD STOLL SEVENTY

ONE of the pioneers of British Film Production is Sir Oswald Stoll, hale and hearty at seventy. Congratulations! In a recent interview, which he gave to The Evening News' special representative, he said, "It is my sincere belief that the entertainment industry is one of the future, rather than of the past. There are great things ahead. I will go so far as to say that it will become the greatest industry in the country — maybe the salvation of the country."

"At the root of entertainment is human labour, neither films, nor anything else can do away with that. Yet in other industries labour is everywhere being displaced by machinery. If that is to go on, as it must, then how is the human worker to live?"

"My view is that people will play for work. The manifold activities of the entertainment world to come will absorb displaced labour."

Sir Oswald explains this factor in work, and play, as the reason on his part for fighting the Tax, he claims that such taxes are a tax upon the employment of human labour as against the machine. He remonstrates that if he pays a chorous girl twenty-five dollars a week, he is obliged to take thirty dollars from the public, because the Treasury demands five dollars per week as a tax upon her work.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

WHEN I visited the Gaumont-British studio at Shepherd's Bush, the director Berthold Viertel, was directing the death scene of "Rhodes", with Walter Huston as the Empire Builder.

"Rhodes" was finding it difficult to get his breath, and had asked Dr. Jamieson to open the window wider, for more air. "Rhodes" gasps, "That's better".

I said to Director Viertel, "You are filming the DEATH OF 'RHODES', on FRIDAY 13TH. You are not superstitious?" He appeared somewhat disturbed, later on, I discovered that Director Viertel had whispered it to Walter Huston, who remarked, "IT'S A GOOD DAY FOR A DEATH SCENE"!

It was a powerful scene; I can see Walter Huston, now, with the spirit of "Rhodes" in his eyes, "Rhodes", who is dying at 49, and still dreaming of a South African Union, which only comes to fruition after his death and which unites South Africa to Cairo.

I asked Walter Huston which screen character which he has played, he liked the best, and he replied, "'Gabriel'", because 'Gabriel' was the type of man who said things in accordance with the ideas of to-day."

There is much that is legendary about the character of 'Abraham Lincoln', which I played, and in presenting him for the screen, you feel that you are limited. 'Rhodes', however, gives his interpreter great scope. He is always impatient to do, more interested in the result of his effort, than any compensation he receives for such effort.

"I ADMIRE people of energy, of course, those who have the capacity for work", said Walter Huston. "The man who succeeds, is the man who crashes Good Fortune, a man of 'Rhodes' character could not help but succeed. He has a driving force which makes success, the same driving force, as we find in all big men to-day. Napoleon had it, Mussolini has it. Regardless of how you, or I, analyze the motives, or the movements of this type of man, they have that power which makes what they do, not only of national, but of world importance."

"But", said I, "These men fail! The very force which drives them on, eventually defeats them. 'Rhodes' was obliged to resign as Prime Minister, his downfall came as the result of the 'Jamieson Raid'. 'The Jamieson Raid failed' said Walter Huston, "because of the circumstances which surrounded it. What men of 'Rhodes' type plan to do, can never be accom-

plished in a man's span of years. 'Rhodes' was a weak boy physically, he had a bad heart and lungs. He went out to Africa, and became a cotton farmer. He was known to have made six wills. The first at 27, at which time he was quite prepared to die. He was strongly pacifistic, desiring peace, and his ideas, in connection with Africa, by way of English expansion, were motivated by a spirit of peaceful penetration. He saw England's mission, as that of an Empire Builder. The colonial inspiration he inherited from his family, and, although, he made a fortune in the diamond fields, exploiting these, his interests were not solely commercial, even when he organized interests to go Northward into Africa, to find gold, for parallel with this gold hunt was the purpose of uniting the tribes of

South Africa. He was a statesman, seeing a colony for England. He thought by uniting the native races, the Boers, the education of the blacks would follow. But the Boers saw South Africa, as their country, they were not at all interested in his plans, nor of being subjects, under the flag of England. There was the inevitable clash, for Kruger could not, and would not be won over."

THE screen story of "Rhodes, the Empire Builder" opens up with a scene between Dr. Jamieson, "Rhodes" physician, who afterwards became his first lieutenant, and "Rhodes". Dr. Jamieson is being played by Basil Sydney. He tells "Rhodes", "You have six years to live", and "Rhodes" replies, "So little done, so much to do". He then proceeds to do, opening up the country, building railroads, his spirit carrying his body to the end.

Another scene, which impressed me greatly, was the scene when the concession hunters are endeavouring to secure the confidence of the chief, "Lobengula". This chief is played by "Kumato", who is impersonating his famous uncle, "Lobengula" of "Rhodes" fame.

There was much ado, the day I saw this scene being screened, for the natives in the "Rhodes" picture, natives from South Africa, brown-skinned men from all nations, American Africans, treated "Kumato" as they would a King, their King, and had brought presents to him, to show their respect and homage. This was a bit of real life, which was not photographed for the story, but certainly helped to create the proper atmosphere and feeling for these native scenes. In the scene which I saw photographed, the chief spoke in his own language, and "Rhodes" spoke to him through an

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Charlie Chaplin's "Modern Times" to Play Uptown, Toronto, Next Week

Ray Presents

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interpreter. "Tell the King I am English, and a servant of the Great White Queen." To which the chief replies, "If I send gifts to the Great White Queen will she visit me, I would like to see her?"

"Lobengula", became "Rhodes" best friend, he died in battle, and a monument is erected to his memory.

"I think I am as good in 'Rhodes', as I have ever been in any part I have played", said Walter Huston, "The character gives me great scope".

WALTER HUSTON was born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1884. He was trained to be an electrical engineer, not an actor, but on finishing his training, he joined up with a show, and went on the road. This was in 1923—he did a song and dance, comedy, etc.

For close to six years, he travelled about as an actor, gaining experience, but not meeting with much success. Finally, he returned to the job for which he had been trained, but again the call of the stage was irresistible, and he decided to try his luck once more. His great hit in "Gentlemen of the Press", in 1929, gave him a first place on the screen, following which, he played in a number of pictures, which have added to his fame, and brought him the substantial compensation, which Hollywood gives to its successful artists.

Conspicuous in his successful career are his roles in "The Virginian", "Abraham Lincoln", "The Woman from Monte Carlo", "The Great Parade", "Rain", "Congo", "Gabriel Over the White House", etc.

Walter Huston came to England to star in the Gaumont-British picture, "Rhodes", exteriors for this film having already been shot in South Africa, in the heart of the Matoppos Hills from which all the Matabele and Mashonaland scenes are handled. The spot for location for "Rhodes" is called Golati, and is between the spot where "Rhodes" lies buried, and where he held his famous Indaba with the Matabele rebels, and the original site of King Lobengula's kraal. The broad spaces of the veldt, which are required for the 1890 column of soldiers, the tangle of bare granite kopjes, and the narrow valleys, in which the Rhodesian pioneers fought, and conquered the Matabele, are here presented.

Geoffrey Barkas, who did the exteriors for Berthold Viertel, the director of "Rhodes", tells us that far out on the veldt, running water is worth its weight in gold, and the intense heat was an added problem to picture-making.

BUT to return to Walter Huston, he claims that, in screening a characterization, the player has not the opportunity to round out the character he is playing, as can be done upon the stage, but the camera helps, it enhances the interpretation. "The camera," states Walter Huston, "is the greatest medium for entertainment in the world."

I had questioned Mr. Huston on the entertainment values of the Screen, on the screen material which is selected. Walter Huston paused for a moment, in his screen enthusiasm, to ex-

claim, "There is some objection to material, but there is a trend toward good pictures. They are growing in naturalness, getting closer to life. I am not a high-brow, and do not believe in striving for the artistic. When you approach Life, you get Art. Shakespeare presented Life, he was not a high-brow, and I think Shakespeare is good screen material. Pictures fail to entertain when they get away from the truth, the closer to truth, the greater the success of the picture. Take 'David Copperfield', and '39 Steps', for example. You believe what you see is happening. Take 'Dodsworth', which I am to do for Samuel Goldwyn. It presents a simple story. A middle-aged man and woman go to Europe, they have their 'affairs', following which the man leaves his wife, and goes to the other woman, there is no plot, just a development which is natural. There is no 'happy ending', in the accepted sense of such terms, but if 'Dodsworth' did not leave his wife, the picture would be spoiled. It has been written, so that the parting is the only finale which is possible. The audience would object to any other finish. It is surprising how much a part audiences play in pictures. I remember a scene in which I had to sign a contract, it was a bad contract, and during the scene, a woman in the audience called out, excitedly, 'don't sign, don't sign that contract!'"

I NOTE", said I, "that there is considerable competition between the American and British Film Industry". Walter Huston interrupted me to exclaim, "That's good, that is what the Screen needs, competition. Variety had its own way for twelve years, with no competition, which destroyed it. The development of the British Film Industry is a natural growth. There is more freedom of expression in the production of pictures in England, than in Hollywood. The producers and directors move together in comradeship. But quality is the final test of the picture, regardless of where it is made".

The picture of "Rhodes", has all the quality which Hollywood could have given it. I am reminded of a little story of Mark Twain's. It tells the story of a man, who went to Heaven, he saw no pearly gates. He told Peter that he hailed from San Francisco, to which Peter replied, "Where is that?" Peter was told it was in California, and inquiring where California was, he was informed in the United States, and that the United States was on earth. Peter took a look at the earth, to find California, and finding the earth he said, "That little speck?" That answers your question about the relative value of countries, in relationship to where a picture is made.

The chief, in this picture of "Rhodes", is a king in his own country, with 2000 natives, or subjects, under his rule. The natives believe that the white people are "the witches", we, who are white, look upon them as "witches".

"Pictures from Hollywood, pictures from England, what does it matter which country does

(Continued on page 8)

Read "From Sandringham to Windsor" Ray Lewis' Personal Impressions in Memorial Digest

ANOTHER MUSIC HALL FOR ASTAIRE-ROGERS

**"FLEET" DOES THE BIGGEST
DAY'S BUSINESS IN THE HISTORIC
RADIO CITY, ON SATURDAY,
... TOPPING EVEN THE RECORD
ING "TOP HAT'S" BIGGEST**

In Boston, at the Keith Memorial, "FLEET" breaks all existing records, regardless of prices or time! . . . Boston expects a six-weeks' run! . . . tremendous openings at the Albee Cincinnati . . . Hippodrome, Cleveland (against the year's stiffest competition) . . . Downtown, Detroit . . . Orpheum Minneapolis . . . Orpheum, New Orleans . . . Albee, Providence . . . OPENING THIS WEEK AND NEXT IN KEY CITIES FROM COAST TO COAST!

**GET READY, SHOW BUSINESS, FOR SOME NEW
IDEAS ABOUT THEATRE GROSSES IN AMERICA**

FRED ★ GINGER
ASTAIRE ★ ROGERS
IN
"FOLLOW THE FLEET"

WITH RANDOLPH SCOTT ★ HARRIET HILLIARD ★ ASTRID ALLWYN

LYRICS AND MUSIC BY IRVING

★ ★ ★ BERLIN ★ ★ ★
★ DIRECTED BY MARK SANDRICH. A Pandro S. Berman Production ★

RECORD

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SALUTE!...

**"ASTAIRE-ROGERS
STILL THE TOPS"**

—Kate Cameron, N. Y. Daily News

**"THE SEASON'S BEST
MUSICAL COMEDY"**

—Frank S. Nugent, N. Y. Times

**"SCORE AND DANCING
UP TO 'TOP HAT'"**

—Richard Watts, Jr., N.Y. Herald-Tribune

**"IT'S THE TOPS
OF ITS KIND"**

—William Boehnel, N.Y. World-Telegram

**"HEAD AND SHOULDERS
ABOVE THE USUAL"**

—Thornton Delehanty, N. Y. Post

**"THREE IN A ROW
FOR ASTAIRE-ROGERS"**

—Regina Crewe, N. Y. American

**"MORE ENTERTAINING
THAN 'TOP HAT'"**

—Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun

"A COMEDY HIT"

—Bland Johaneson, N. Y. Daily Mirror

**"DELIGHTFUL
ENTERTAINMENT"**

—Rose Felswick, N. Y. Evening Journal

**RKO-RADIO
PICTURE**



Conklin in Winnipeg

THE Walker Theatre, for many years the thriving home of legitimate stage presentations in Winnipeg, has fallen into the hands of the city for taxes.

Since passing the hey-day of flesh and blood drama by travelling and stock companies, the Walker's doors have been closed a great deal of the time, the situation having been aggravated by construction of the Winnipeg Auditorium in 1932. The new building has attracted the large portion of Winnipeg stage shows.

The Walker is the second Winnipeg theatre to go to the city in this manner, the Pantages Theatre being given up by its owners two or three years ago. C. P. Walker, James Walker and Fred Walker built the Walker in 1908 at a cost of \$375,000. It is one of the finest theatres in Canada. The motion picture theatres "talkies" hurt the Walker greatly.

Opening of the Walker on February 18, 1907, was a gala occasion for Winnipeg. The performance was Puccini's opera, "Madam Butterfly", presented by the Henry W. Savage English Grand Opera Company. Addresses were made by a number of local dignitaries, including Mayor James H. Ashdown.

Approved Films Lists To Be Posted In Winnipeg Public Schools

LISTS of approved motion picture films will be posted in the public schools of Winnipeg, as a result of the decision of the management committee, recently, following receipt of a letter from the Local Council of Women, Winnipeg Branch. The women had offered to provide such lists and the offer was accepted, with the understanding that the lists be first submitted to the superintendent's office. Trustee Meyer Averbach was doubtful of the wisdom of such a course, seeing a possibility of censorship being exercised by people who, he thought, might not be fully qualified to judge.

Those in charge of preparing the lists, according to the letter, would include the following: Mrs. E. R. Siddall, Child Study association; Mrs. R. H. Hopper, Parent Teacher association; Mrs. B. A. Victor, representing Jewish organizations; Mrs. William Askey, Anglican church; Mrs. Martin Murphy, Roman Catholic church; Mrs. H. E. Hastings, United Church; Mrs. C. N. Halstead, Mothers' Club of Norwood.

H. M. Thomas Writes From California

MANY friends in eastern Canada of H. M. Thomas, formerly Western manager of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, but now proprietor of the Romona Theatre in San Diego, California, will be interested in knowing that he is enjoying good health and is altogether delighted with his new location. In a recent letter to the Digest correspondent, Mr. Thomas said in part:

"Back in the show game. Bought a little picture show in San Diego, right on the Mexican border, and just a few miles from Caliente. Am crazy about San Diego, a city of 180,000, but more metropolitan than the numbers would indicate.

"It's winter, I have the windows open and am writing in my shirt sleeves. Never lived in a place I liked as well except Toronto. It's pretty and the climate is so nice. Within 20 miles we have Coronado, which I would christen, 'The Dream City of the Pacific'. It baffles description. On the other side is beautiful Point Loma, the 'Gibraltar' of the western American coast.

Ray Presents

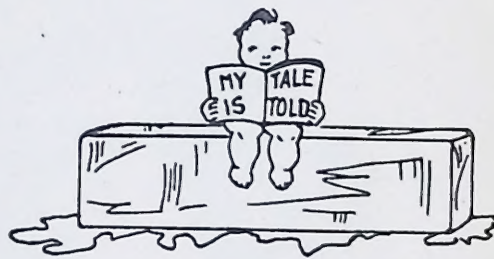
(Continued from page 5)

the producing, as long as we have fine pictures? The future of the Screen depends upon creating its own writers. You will not get ideas at the studios, for no studio can breed ideas. Stories must be found, and adapted, as closely to the author's ideas as possible. Ideas are rare. They are difficult to obtain. The basis of any story is its idea. The public do not wish to be taught anything from the Screen, any lesson, which the Screen delivers, must be without preachment, or intention. The unusual is always entertainment."

"**D**ODSWORTH" was a great success for Walter Huston as a play. Prior to coming to England for the "Rhodes" picture, Walter Huston played at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto, where he received a tremendous welcome. Turning to me he said, "Give my best to Toronto, when you go back there, and Yonge St." I did not have time to ask Walter Huston if he referred to Yonge St., as A MAIN ST., for just then, he was called by the director, Berthold Viertel, to come and die again.

The interview took place on Friday 13th., I thought I was lucky to get it, to witness that Death Scene of "Rhodes", from which all visitors, interviewers, etc., were excluded. Being A Canadian was an "Open Sesame" for me.

This time the director was satisfied, that Walter Huston had registered a great death scene, and so am I. There was a cessation of work, for lunch, and Walter Huston said, "You can believe me, I am hungry, dying is hard work".



Fifty miles up the coast is Laguna Beach, the paradise of artists and authors. It's a gorgeous little place where mountain and sea meet.

"Our residence, Grammercy Court, suggests by its name the Old English style of architecture that distinguishes it. Rustic bridges, old hammered iron lanterns and many English relics adorn the centre of the court.

"Here's a big laugh. Nowhere in Canada is there a Canadian Legion building to compare with the one here. In truth, this is 'Little Canada' and 'Little England', for the climate surely gets them."

Books by Canadian Author to be Filmed

TWO of the most popular novels of Nellie McClung, Victoria, B.C., author, are being adopted for filming. They are "Sowing Seeds in Danny" and its sequel, "The Second Chance".

Mrs. McClung formerly lived in Edmonton, Alta., and Winnipeg.

Her most recent book, "Clearing in the West" which tells the story of the part played by her family and herself in pioneering in Manitoba, has proved one of the most popular Canadian books published in considerable time.

New \$50,000 Theatre Being Built in Victoria, B.C.

Dear Old London

(Special to Digest from our London Correspondent, DENNISON THORNTON)

Trafalgar Films—New Producing Company.

BEVERLEY BAXTER, M.P., the Toronto born (former) editor-in-chief of "The Daily Express", and up to recently Public Relations Director of Gaumont-British Corporation, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Trafalgar Films, a new producing company just formed here by Max Schach of Capitol Films. In my last bulletin I wrote at some length about the birth of Capitol whose product is being distributed by C. M. Woolfe's new organization here. With the formation of Trafalgar Films further pictures will be made by Mr. Schach for world release by United Artists. The pictures will be made at Korda's new Denham studios and the programme lined-up includes "Pagliacci" with Richard Tauber, and "Elizabeth of England" which will probably be done in color.

Capital involved in the formation of Trafalgar and a subsidiary company not yet named is estimated at \$5,000,000.

This tie-up now provides United Artists with a decidedly strong British output both quantitatively as well as qualitatively. The object, no doubt, is to make up for the loss suffered by U.A. as a result of the Twentieth-Century-Fox merger.

The latter have also entered the British production field, their initial opus being the new Elizabeth Bergner film, "As You Like It" which is now in production at Elstree under direction of Dr. Paul Czinner who made "Escape Me Never". Quite a stir was created recently when all press men were barred from the Bergner set. If this was a publicity stunt on the part of the studio officials it certainly worked! Critics devoted considerable space to stories about the ban, which has since been lifted.

Independent Producers Busy.

Negotiations on the part of Mr. Sam Smith have resulted in an alliance between British Lion Corporation and Hammer Productions, an independent British unit. This means the B-L British output has now been doubled. The Hammer group of pictures includes a Paul Robeson production entitled "Song of Freedom" said to be a dramatization of the star's own life.

A unit left for Africa recently where exteriors will be filmed in the actual territory where Robeson's ancestors lived.

A second Hammer opus will be "Sporting Love", described as a "musical horseplay" starring Stanley Lupino.

Other independent organizations are also hard at work. Signor Toeplitz, who produced "The Love Affair of the Dictator", has put into production his Maurice Chevalier picture, "The Beloved Vagabond" based on W. J. Locke's best seller. Julius Hagen's new company has started work on "Dusty Ermine" featuring Paul Cavanagh. Criterion Films are readying their "Knights of the Round Table" in which Fairbanks, Jr., will star while Grosvenor Productions are about to start on "The Gay Adventure"

Barry Jones to Star in "The Gay Adventure"

Barry Jones, the young British actor who is well-known in Canada and the United States for his stage work, is to be co-starred with Yvonne Arnaud in "The Gay Adventure" which Sinclair Hill is directing for Grosvenor. Mr. Jones will be remembered by Canadian

audiences for his work in "The Queen's Husband" and in the several Bernard Shaw plays with which he toured the Dominion a few years ago. He recently appeared here on the stage in Ivor Novello's "Glamorous Night" which B.I.P. are to film in the near future with Ramon Novarro.

Incidentally B.I.P. have just acquired the rights to "Jumbo", the Ben Hecht-Charles McArthur production which is New York's current stage sensation. In the face of the stiffest possible competition from Sam Goldwyn, B.I.P. succeeded in outbidding Hollywood. John Monk Saunders, author of "Wings", has been signed to write the script of "Jumbo", the entire action of which takes place during a circus performance.

At the moment B.I.P. have only one picture ready for showing. This is "Once in a Million" which co-stars Buddy Rogers and Mary Brian.

No doubt the success of "The Informer" has inspired the same company to produce another picture dealing with the days of trouble in Ireland following the war. "Ourselves Alone" is the title and it is a literal translation of "Sinn Fein". Walter Summers and Desmond Hurst are directing it.

OFFICIALS of the British and Dominions Corporation announce that their production schedule will not be held-up as a result of the disastrous fire which recently destroyed their Elstree studios. Herbert Wilcox has already arranged for the use of floor space at Julius Hagen's new sound stages. Here he will continue work on "The Three Maxims" (or "Trapeze" as it may be called) in which Anna Neagle, Tullio Carminati and Leslie Banks are being starred.

B.I.P. whose studios adjoined the B. & D. lot, and who suffered the loss of three sound stages in the fire, also state that their plans remain unaffected.

Rebuilding of studios is already planned according to Herbert Wilcox and B.I.P. officials, although it will take at least a year to erect new stages.

Damage by the fire is estimated at a total of £500,000. Luckily, all negatives of new productions were saved.

In the meantime rapid progress is being made on the new studios at Denham (Korda), Pinewood, Iver (British National) and Sound City.

"Cyrano de Bergerac" Postponed

The news that Alexander Korda had abandoned his "Cyrano de Bergerac" film starring Charles Laughton came as something of a shock after the months of preparation for this subject. But now, it is officially announced, the project has not been shelved but has been merely postponed. In the interim Charles Laughton, who is under contract to London Films, will make another picture for Korda — a musical show written by Frederick Lonsdale. In this, Laughton is to appear as the proprietor of a luxury hotel which becomes famous for its cabaret performances. Incidentally, Laughton himself was once an hotel man before he turned to acting.

"Cyrano de Bergerac", I understand, will be co-directed by Alexander Korda and Lee Garmes at the new Denham studios which will open shortly. The script, which has been done in rhymed couplets, is the work of Lajos Biro and Arthur Wimperis who were responsible for the "Henry VIII" scenario.

Associated Screen News, Montreal, Filming "Death Strikes Again" for Commodore Pictures

Lulu in Hollywood

(Lulu for Louise S. Niemeyer)

20TH CENTURY-FOX, "Captain January", with Shirley Temple, Guy Kibbee, Slim Summerville, June Lang, Buddy Ebsen, Sara Haden, Jane Darwell, Jerry Tucker, Nella Walker, George Irving, James Farley, Si Jenks, John Carradine. Directed by David Butler. Shirley outdoes herself as the adorable six year old, adopted by a lighthouse keeper. She is the light of his eyes, and when a truant officer prepares to put her in an institution, things pop, but along comes the fairy in the guise of rich relations who save the day. It's just grand, folks. Right here I want to say, when we have space for proper comment on the men and women behind the guns — the support, the photography — song and story writers we will be happy, for without them it would usually be like the Chinaman's story — no tickee, no shirtee

PARAMOUNT'S "Desire", with Marlene Dietrich, Gary Cooper, John Halliday, William Frawley, Ernest Cossart, Akim Tamiroff, Alan Mowbray, Zeffie Tilbury. Directed by Frank Borzage. Leaves one rather cold — just as cold as the thief Marlene is through all but the last sequences. The Dietrich fans will like it.

WARNER'S "Man Hunt" with Ricardo Cortez, Marguerite Churchill, Chic Sale, William Gargan, Richard Purcell and a good sized capable cast. Directed by William Clemens. Go to town with a nice comedy. The bad man, Ricardo, from the big city, goes to the little town. The young people William Gargan as an ambitious reporter, and Marguerite Churchill, a school teacher, found said town too dead, and have left for bigger and better things, but circumstances bring them back and involve them in a bad man's mix up. Lots of excitement with Chic Sale, the ex-sheriff being on the job with his old guns, and dad burn it if he doesn't get them all set in the end. Lots of good character stuff.

REPUBLIC'S "Oregon Trail" with John Wayne, Ann Rutherford, Joe Girard and a large cast. Directed by Scott Pembroke. Is a very nice clean cut satisfying western, for which there is a warm spot in almost everyone's heart. It's a story of the Oregon Trail. Wayne is the young Lieutenant out to avenge his father's death, and what with wagon trains, Indian raids and believable bits of history, it's a splendid piece of work.

"Follow the Fleet"

Setting New Records

After breaking all existing week-end records at Keith's Theatre, Boston, both in attendance and receipts, "Follow The Fleet" seems set for a six week run at the house, according to the management. Audience comments seem to indicate, says the management, that the film is better liked even than the previous Astaire-Rogers musicals.

"Fleet" Cracks Records at Albee, Cincinnati

Week-end records went by the board at the Albee here over the week-end under the box-office pressure of "Follow The Fleet". On Saturday thousands were turned away and 30 police were needed to keep traffic lanes clear near the theatre.

Memphis Reports "Fleet" Reaching New Highs

The greatest business ever done by any picture was reported by the Palace here for Saturday, February 22, the attraction being the new Astaire-Rogers musical, "Follow The Fleet". The management predicts that "Top Hat's" figures will be topped by the new smash.

Harry Stockwell, Frances Langford Romantic Leads in "Gram"

The boy who sang "Headin' Home" and the girl who sang "Lucky Star" are to be teamed as the latest romantic team of the screen. Harry Stockwell and Frances Langford have been assigned the youthful leads in "Gram", Kathleen Norris' story in which Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink makes her bow under her new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer contract, with May Robson.

Stockwell, New York stage and radio favorite, scored his first picture hit singing "Headin' Home" in "Here Comes the Band". Miss Langford, also a noted radio singer, sang "You Are My Lucky Star" in "Broadway Melody of 1936".

"Gram" will come to the screen as an ambitious musical. In the script are twenty-seven sequences in which music of some sort will be introduced as a logical part of the story.

John W. Considine, Jr., is to produce the new picture, in which Miss Robson portrays a woman of wealth, and Mme. Schumann-Heink one stricken by poverty. Stockwell is Miss Robson's ward who falls in love with Miss Langford, cast as the granddaughter of the real life opera star.

"Hollywood Reporter" to Publish London Edition

According to a story in the "World's Press News", the "Hollywood Reporter", the well-known American film trade paper, is to publish a London edition under the title of "London Reporter".

"World's Press News" states that Arthur Joseph, Vice-President of the publication, is at present in London making final arrangements.

The move is regarded here as foreshadowing "fierce competition in the world of film journalism". There are already three trade papers serving the British industry—"The Daily Film Renter", presided over by Ernest Fredman; "Today's Cinema"; "Kinematograph Weekly", owned by the Odham's Press; and "The Era", weekly publication edited by G. A. Atkinson.

Two years ago Neville Thompson started the "British Film Reporter" but owing to lack of advertising support the paper folded after a few months.

With regard to the "London Reporter", the "World's Press News" states: "It is understood the promoters of the new journal feel the expansion of the British industry will leave room for an additional publication."

"Queen of Hearts"

Gracie Fields Best

GRACIE FIELDS' new picture, "Queen of Hearts", produced by Basil Dean and directed by Monty Banks, is probably the best film this star has yet made. For the first time Miss Fields is given the opportunity to do some real acting, although this does not mean that she doesn't contribute her usual quota of clowning. There are four attractive songs which the star "puts over" with her customary skill. The story concerns the rise to theatrical eminence of a working girl. Monty Banks has invested the picture in speed and action, making it a recommendable proposition for exhibitors who have done well with Miss Fields' previous films.

**Canadian House of Commons Describes Operations of Canadian Performing
Right Society as "Pernicious Racket"**



Show Business



Laurel-Hardy Feature "The Money Box"

With their latest feature comedy, "The Bohemian Girl", completed and ready for early release, Laurel and Hardy are getting ready to start work on a new full-length vehicle, scheduled to go before the cameras next month.

The script, an original one, based on W. W. Jacobs' story, "The Money Box", and for the first time in their respective careers, the stars will each play dual roles.

Harrington Reynolds and Clarence Hennecks are assigned to work on the story.

RKO Radio Buys "Riddle of the Dangling Pearl"

"Riddle of the Dangling Pearl", new Stuart Palmer mystery comedy, has been purchased by RKO Radio for the use of the new comedy starring team, James Gleason and Helen Broderick, now making "Murder on a Bridle Path" by the same author.

The new story will be the fifth Palmer mystery to be screened by RKO Radio. The first three of his amusing adventures of Inspector Piper and Hildegard Withers were "The Penguin Pool Murder", "Murder on a Blackboard" and "Murder on a Honeymoon".

Sunnie O'Dea Signed for Role in "Show Boat"

Sunnie O'Dea, well-known New York musical comedy actress, who made her picture debut recently in "Strike Me Pink" with Eddie Cantor and Sally Eilers, has been signed by Carl Laemmle, Jr. Miss O'Dea will play the role of Irene Dunne's grown-up daughter, Kim, in "Show Boat", a part taken in the earlier years by Marilyn Knowlden. Others who have just been added to the "Show Boat" cast are Stanley Fields and Flora Finch.

Two New Films Start Production

Two new pictures are due for immediate production at the Gaumont-British Studios, Shepherd's Bush. "The Wrecker", starring Edmund Lowe and Constance Cummings, directed by Albert de Courville; "Everything is Thunder", with Constance Bennett. Milton Rosmer to direct.

"The Wrecker" is a story of mysterious and dramatic train-wrecks, in which "Eddie" Lowe and Constance Cummings play the roles of rival investigators, amiably wisecracking with one another throughout their fight against the gang of gun-runners who have engineered the wrecks. "Everything is Thunder" tells of the adventures of a British officer who escapes from a German prison-camp during the War, and is befriended and protected in Berlin by a lonely and courageous little girl-waif of the city.

Still More Honors to David Selznick

David O. Selznick, whose first picture as an independent producer, "Little Lord Fauntleroy", will soon be released through United Artists, has been awarded the gold medal and certificate of honor at the International Festival of Motion Pictures at Brussels, Belgium.

The award was made for his production of David Copperfield, filmed when he was a producer for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Freddie Bartholomew, who achieved a stellar position with his performance in "David Copperfield", also plays the title role in "Little Lord Fauntleroy". Dolores Costello Barrymore will be seen as Dearest.

The award of the International Festival was sent to Hollywood, and the actual presentation was made by Dolores Costello Barrymore at the request of the awards committee.

Clark Gable, Jean Crawford for "A Lady Comes to Town"

Clark Gable and Joan Crawford will be co-starred in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "A Lady Comes to Town", based on the Cosmopolitan Magazine novelette by Clements Ripley.

Clarence Brown, who has just completed "Wife Versus Secretary", and before that did "Ah, Wilderness!" will be at the directorial reins.

Hunt Stromberg will be the producer and the story adaptation is the work of Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett.

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Toronto Theatres

LOEWS—Manager Jules Bernstein — "A Tale of Two Cities", Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature, starring Ronald Colman, held over for second week.

TIVOLI—Manager D. Krendal — "I Dream Too Much", RKO Radio feature, with Lily Pons; also "Another Face", with Wallace Ford, an RKO Radio release.

UPTOWN—Manager Jack Arthur — Harold Lloyd in "The Milky Way", released by Paramount.

IMPERIAL—Manager Tom Daley — Ronald Colman and Joan Bennett in 20th Century-Fox release, "The Man Who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo".

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — Ruth Chatterton in "Lady of Secrets", a Columbia feature.

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